

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-07

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C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 1759

LIMDIS

DAMASCUS PASS GOVERNOR ROCKEFELLER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, JO
SUBJECT: FORMER VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER'S VISIT TO JORDAN

1. FORMER VICE PRES RENT ROCKEFELLER'S JORDAN VISIT ENDED

WITH 45 MINUTE PRIVATE MEETING WITH KING HUSSEIN REQUESTED
BY KING HUSSEIN. ROCKEFELLER MADE CLEAR TO KING THAT HE
VISITING JORDAN AS PRIVATE CITIZEN. ROCKEFELLER INFORMED
EMBOFF AFTER MEETING THAT KING HUSSEIN EXPRESSED FAMILIAR
CONCERN ABOUT EXCESS OPTIMISM IN ARAB WORLD RE PEACE PROSPECTS
IN THE MIDDLE-EAST. KING SAID HE FEARS SUCH OPTIMISM WILL
REBOUND AGAINST ARAB MODERATES IF CURRENT PEACE EFFORTS
FAIL OR WIND DOWN--PROSPECTS KING HUSSEIN THINKS ARE
REALISTIC POSSIBILITIES. ROCKEFELLER ACKNOWLEDGED
DIFFICULTIES ON ROAD TO PEACE, BUT TOLD KING HUSSEIN
THAT ARABS' OPTIMISM IN THE SENSE OF THEIR PUBLIC
POSITION OF WANTING PEACE AND THINKING IT IS POSSIBLE
IS GOOD POSITION FOR THEM TO HOLD IN EYE OF U.S.
PUBLIC AS PEACE PROCESS MOVES FORWARD. ROCKEFELLER
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ALSO REAFFIRMED TO KING HUSSEIN THAT MOST AMERICANS
BELIEVE JORDAN HAS IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN PEACE
PROCESS, ESPECIALLY REGARDING PALESTINIAN ISSUE. KING
HUSSEIN REPLIED THAT HE NEEDED SUPPORT OF OTHER ARAB
STATES AS HE CONSIDERED HIS MOVES ON THIS QUESTION.

2. ROCKEFELLER APPROVED ABOVE REPORT IN ORAL VERSION,

BUT HE DID NOT HAVE TIME TO SEE AND APPROVE WRITTEN
VERSION BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR DAMASCUS. ROCKEFELLER
MENTIONED TO EMBOFF HIS INTENTION TO DISCUSS HIS MIDDLE
EAST VISIT WITH SECRETARY VANCE WHEN HE RETURNS TO U.S.

3. ELSEWHERE DURING JORDAN VISIT 22-23 MARCH AND
25-27 MARCH, GOVERNOR AND MRS. ROCKEFELLER WERE GUESTS
OF HONOR AT DINNER HOSTED BY CROWN PRINCE HASSAN WHERE
ROCKEFELLER MET SENIOR GOJ OFFICIALS CHIEF OF ROYAL COURT
SHARIF ABDUL HAMID SHARAF, CINC LT. GEN. BEN SHAKER, AND
AMBASSADOR. CROWN PRINCE HAD
PRIVATE MEETING WITH ROCKEFELLER 23 MARCH AND HAD HIM
TO PRIVATE LUNCH IN JORDAN VALLEY 25 MARCH WHERE
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS DISCUSSED. ROCKEFELLER PARTY
SUBSEQUENTLY WAS GOJ GUEST AT TOUR OF JERASH, PETRA
AND OVERNIGHT IN AQABA. KING HUSSEIN EXPRESSED TO
ROCKEFELLER HIS GREAT REGRET THAT CONCURRENT VISIT OF
KING CARLOS 23-26 MARCH DID NOT PERMIT HIM
TO SPEND MORE TIME PERSONALLY WITH GOVERNOR
AND MRS. ROCKEFELLER.
PICKERING

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